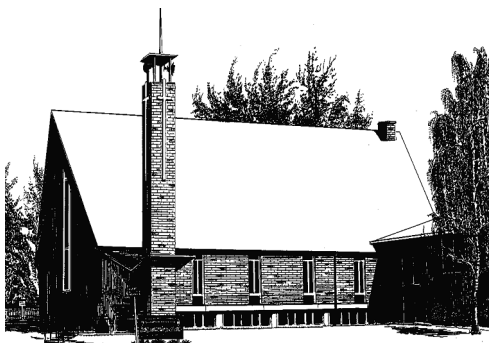


Westminster United Church



Ministers: All the people
Clergy: Rev. James Farrell
Director of Music: Chris White
Treasurer: Murray Bell
Custodian: James Karpeh
Secretary: Kim Sherring
Jr Choir: Anna Marie Hancock
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*“We are a faith community building relationships
with God, all people, and our world.”*

November 13, 2011

We welcome Dr. Bob Cruickshank as Worship Leader this morning.

The abundant possibilities of God’s extravagant and life-giving love are not limited by traditional boundaries. God’s presence is to be found where disciples might not expect or even desire it. As the Spirit leads us into adventures beyond our imaginations, we are empowered by faith to live as though the fulfillment of God’s reign is imminent.

If you would like to stay seated for any or all of the “standing” parts of the service, please feel free to do so.

Need a refuge? Our Nursery is located off Memorial Hall, has a speaker system through which to hear the service, and exists for all who may need this space. Memorial Hall approach is via the pulpit side exit.

Prelude / Sharing Announcements / A Time of Greeting

A Time of Silent Preparation—Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship *(Responsive)*

One: In the cold, dark mornings, the bright, sunny afternoons, snow filled evenings, seasons of change and courage.

All: The Ground of all Being is in our midst.

One: In hills outlined against the rising sun, and the muted sounds of early Morning walkers.

All: The Ground of all Being is in our midst.

One: In the faces of families, and those alone, the hurrying and the day dreaming.

All: The Ground of all Being is in our midst.

One: In life touching other life, moments of kindness, sharing of joys, caring for others.

All: The Ground of all Being is in our midst.

Opening Prayer *(Unison)*

In the midst of our everyday when life is full and we are about all those things we are about, we scarcely have time to fit all in. And yet, here we are, squeezing into this not-so-special-anymore day a moment to glimpse the Holy, to step out of time into a timelessness of awe. With those who have gone this way before, and those who have yet to venture forth, we travel roads of wonder and give thanks. Amen.

Hymn #395 “Come In, Come In and Sit Down”

Conversation Time

Coloring packets for the children are available in the first pew on the pulpit side of the church.

Prayer for Transformation *(Unison)*

There may be times when we have been called on to use the talents we have been given and we deny their existence. May we be alerted to the insight of friends and loved ones. When we are afraid of what people will say, may we have the confidence to risk. When we would keep our talents to ourselves, may our eyes be opened to the increasing circles of need. When we hold back from a generous response, let us remember the example of Jesus...*(time for silent reflection)*

Words of Assurance *(One)*

As we use our gifts for the good of all we will find peace. Amen.

Biblical Notes / Prayer of Illumination

Matthew 25:14-30 *from the Hebrew Scriptures Pg. 37*

*Other lessons for your personal consideration from today’s lections are:
Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123.*

Anthem “O For a World”

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 *from the Christian Scriptures Pg. 256 (NRSV)*

Reflection

Hymn #509 “I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”

Mission Moment Pat Connell

Our Church Tithes and Offerings / Offertory

Dedication Hymn #540 “Grant Us, God, the Grace”

Prayer of Dedication *(One)*

We are called to make real the sharing of the gifts we have. We offer what we have for the good of all. May these gifts be blessed. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession & Lord’s Prayer

Hymn #MV154 “Deep In Our Hearts”

Commissioning (One)

Let us go from this church to search out our talents carefully; use our abilities generously, comfort the suffering tenderly. May we live in peace.

Choral Amen

Hymn “Dance with the Spirit”(x2)

Postlude

Welcome to Westminster this morning.

Please gather for coffee in Memorial Hall, following worship.

This Week at Westminster (November 13th – 19th)

Sun.	Worship	10:25 a.m.	Sanctuary
Tue.	Deadline for Annual Report submissions		
	Prayer Shawl	1:30 p.m.	Lounge
	Board of Elders	7:00 p.m.	Lounge
Wed.	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.	Nursery
	Mission & Outreach	1:30 p.m.	Unisphere
Thu.	Senior Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary
Sat.	UCW Poinsettia Tea	2:00 p.m.	Memorial Hall

Next Week at Westminster (November 20th – 26th)

Sun.	Local Food Needs	10:00 a.m.	Narthex
	Worship: Children’s Sunday Jr. Choir Sings Baptism & Membership	10:25 a.m.	Sanctuary
Tue.	Staff Meeting	9:00 a.m.	Lounge
	Prayer Shawl	1:30 p.m.	Lounge
Wed.	Bible Study	9:30 a.m.	Nursery
Thu.	Decorating for Advent	9:30 a.m.	Sanctuary
	Senior Choir Practice	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary

Friendship Rosters: Please sign the Friendship Roster this morning. It is a helpful record of your worship presence and a way to share special concerns.

Three times per year, **Commune-I-Care** calls provide each family with the opportunity to receive information (ie. upcoming activities or events) and to allow families to give information (ie. regarding celebrations in their lives or possible needs they may have). After many years of dedication to this important ministry, some callers and coordinators are stepping aside. **Please consider volunteering for this important ministry and sign up in the hallway leading into Memorial Hall by the Calendars.**

The women of the UCW would like to invite all women of the church to participate in our Poinsettia Tea & Bake Sale. If you wish to donate baking for the bake sale or to help in any way, please contact Yvonne at 403-504-1249.

Westminster UCW’s **Poinsettia Tea & Bake Sale** is this Saturday, from 2:40:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.50/person. Come and bring a friend.

The following dates have been booked for Westminster to help with the **Salvation Army Christmas Kettles:** Saturday, November 26th at Superstore; Monday, November 22nd at Canadian Tire; Thursday, December 1st at Canadian Tire; and Wednesday, December 7th at Canadian Tire. Please check your calendars and be ready to sign up after church with Donna Scharf.

Fall Supper Update: Over 288 people were fed and after Sunday’s free will Luncheon, a profit of \$3388.98 was realized. Besides being a major fundraiser for our church, the supper is an opportunity for the community to come into the church to experience fellowship and see what we are all about. It does not happen without the dedication of the many people who cook and donate food; serve and wash dishes; set up and clean. Blessings to you all and congratulations on another successful fall supper! *Submitted by Dawn Skogen and Jackie Carlson, Organizing Committee*

Thank you to those who support our Medicine Hat Coop Ltd receipts campaign to be used for special projects. Drop off locations for receipts are located in the Narthex and by the Ramp.

Free trade coffee has been purchased from Lifeline Haiti to support their efforts to make life easier for Haitian children. Anyone wishing to contribute to this worthwhile cause, through a free-will offering, the coffee will be brewed separately to prevent waste and is labelled, *“In support of Lifeline Haiti.”*

Celebrations This Week

Ministry was extended into the community this past week as James officiated at the marriage ceremony of Danielle Weiss and Tyrell Sears.

Birthdays: Jean Pfeifer, Kira Gerhardt, Choice Stevenson, & Carol Dureault.

Anniversaries: Florence & Garnet Leech.

South Alberta Presbytery: Our prayers this week are requested for Burdett-Bow Island Pastoral Charge & Sheila MacLeod.

Our Order of Ministry This Morning

Greeters & Ushers	Norm & Albina Jackson, Clayton & Vicki Gunn
Coffee Hosts	Barb Grozell, Sharon Clay, John & Betty Sidlick
Scripture Reader	Arlea Harper
Elder-in-Charge	Ron McEwen

Next Week’s Readings for Reign of Christ Sunday: *Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100 or Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; Matthew 25:31-46; Ephesians 1:15-23.*

Stewardship Thought for Today

Stewardship does not put God in a box labelled “church on Sunday.” Stewardship brings God to every part of daily life, and speaks out against oppression wherever it is found.

By Kathie Murphy (General Council Office)